DC
30c
NO. 287
MAY
30430
BAT MAN
THE PENGUIN IS BACK-- DEADLIER THAN EVER!
SURPRISE, BATMAN! IN A MOMENT, YOU'LL BE AS EXTINCT AS THIS BIRD I'M RIDING!
AWRRK! AWRRK!
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ADVERTISEMENT

Wonder Woman
AND CUP CAKES
"THE MALTESE CUP CAKE"
WONDER WOMAN, YOU MUST HELP ME. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN.
HOW... MR. ASTOR?
HELP ME FIND THE MALTESE CUP CAKE... THAT MYSTERIOUS, FABLED, LEGENDARY IDOL-- I MUST HAVE IT-- BECAUSE I MUST HAVE IT!!!
ENTER PETULA LORRY, SNIVELING, SHADOWY HENCHWOMAN, AS IF FROM NOWHERE.
PSSST!!! HEY, STRONG LADY... I CAN TELL YOU WHERE THE ELUSIVE MALTESE CUP CAKE IS. IT'S RUMORED TO BE IN THE HANDS OF A SHADY MAN IN THE UH-OH DISTRICT OF TOWN.
FOLLOW ME... I'LL TAKE YOU THERE.
HMMMM... UH-OH?
UH-OH! GREAT APHRODITE!
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE MALTESE CUP CAKE?
MY CHARMING LADY OF GRACE AND STRENGTH-- YOU'VE JUST BEEN TRICKED. NOW MEET MY BOSS, THE CORRUPT CINDY BLUESTREET, BETTER KNOWN AS THE FAT LADY. YOU'LL LOVE HER WICKED, SNARLING LAUGH...
YOU WERE LOOKING FOR A SHADY MAN! INSTEAD, YOU FIND A BIG LADY WHO THROWS A BIG SHADOW-- HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HO-HO-HO... AND NOW-- YOU'LL PROMISE ME TO GIVE UP THE SEARCH FOR THE MALTESE CUP CAKE...?!? OR ELSE...
BUT WHAT'S THIS ON THE SHELF UP HIGH? IT LOOKS LIKE HALF CUP CAKE - HALF MONSTER, COULD IT BE THE CURSED IDOL?
BUT WHY SUCH A FUSS? WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT ABOUT A STONE CUP CAKE?
HA HE HE HA HA ... THE MALTESE CUP CAKE IDOL IS RUMORED TO BE THE ANCIENT FORERUNNER OF THE MODERN CUP CAKE... GREAT HISTORIC VALUE FOR ASTOR... BUT I'M INTERESTED IN WHAT IT'S WORTH!
OOOOPS... ANOTHER FALLEN IDOL!!
CUP CAKES
CUP CAKES
CUP CAKES
GREAT HERA... WHAT A CRUMBY IDOL!
THAT'S NOT THE MALTESE CUP CAKE!!!
SO WHAT? MY SEARCH HAS FORTUNATELY LED ME TO THE ULTIMATE! A DELICIOUS HOSTESS® CUP CAKE! SCRUMPTIOUS, MOUTH-WATERING!
I LOVE DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE! AND SO MOIST!
THAT PRICELESS CREAMED FILLING AND CHOCOLATY ICING!... WORTHY OF THE ATTENTION OF ANY SERIOUS COLLECTOR WITH GOOD TASTE.
AND NOW FOR MY SERIOUS WORK-- TO FIND A JAIL BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD THE FAT LADY AND HER EVIL FRIENDS.
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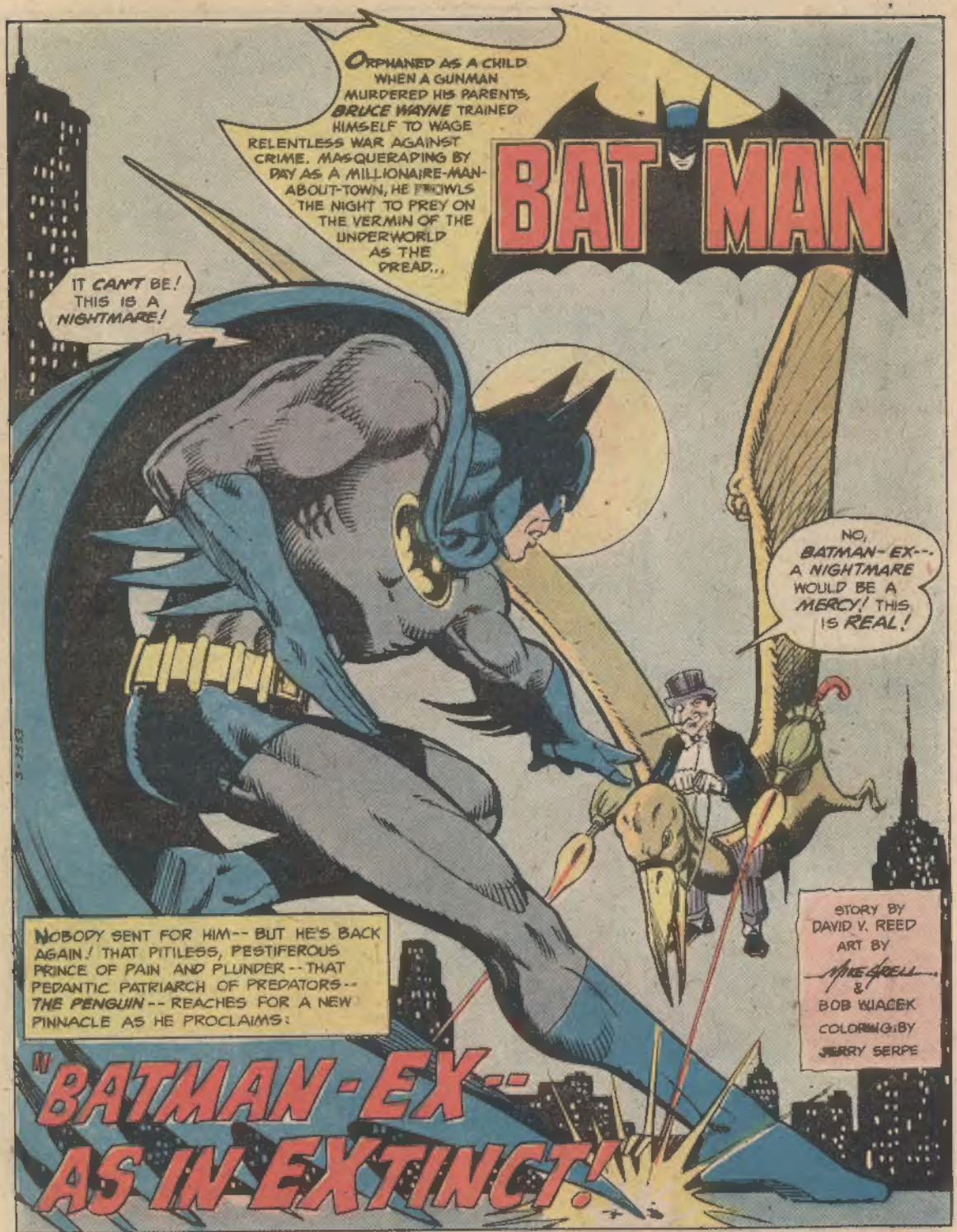
ORPHANED AS A CHILD WHEN A GUNMAN MURDERED HIS PARENTS, BRUCE WAYNE TRAINED HIMSELF TO WAGE RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME. MASQUERADING BY DAY AS A MILLIONAIRE-MAN-ABOUT-TOWN, HE PROWLS THE NIGHT TO PREY ON THE VERMIN OF THE UNDERWORLD AS THE DREAD...
BAT MAN
IT CAN'T BE! THIS IS A NIGHTMARE!
NO, BATMAN-EX--. A NIGHTMARE WOULD BE A MERCY! THIS IS REAL!
NOBODY SENT FOR HIM-- BUT HE'S BACK AGAIN! THAT PITILESS, PESTIFEROUS PRINCE OF PAIN AND PLUNDER-- THAT PEDANTIC PATRIARCH OF PREDATORS-- THE PENGUIN-- REACHES FOR A NEW PINNACLE AS HE PROCLAIMS:
STORY BY DAVID V. REED
ART BY MIKE GRELL & BOB WIACEK
COLORING BY JERRY SERPE
"BATMAN-EX-- AS IN EXTINCT!

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THE SCENE: A RECEPTION AT LA GALERIE... WHERE GOTHAM'S SOCIÉTÉ FRANCAISE IS UNVEILING AN EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF NAPOLEON I...
HARDLY THE PLACE TO EXPECT THE DREAD BATMAN...BUT A PERFECTLY NATURAL SETTING FOR HIS PUBLIC COUNTERPART, BRUCE WAYNE --FINANCIER, SOCIALITE AND PATRON OF THE ARTS...
...ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF HIS CURRENT INTEREST IN THE SOCIÉTÉ'S PRESS DIRECTOR, RENÉE CANTRELL...
BRUCE, DEAR, I CAN SEE YOU'RE BORED TO DEATH ...AND I'LL BE TIED UP FOR HOURS YET!
GIVE ME A RAINCHECK AND WE'LL HAVE DINNER TOMORROW NIGHT AT MY PLACE, YES?
GREAT! I'LL SNEAK OUT THE BACK WAY... SEE YOU THEN!
BUT AS BRUCE STARTS TO MAKE HIS EXIT--
MR. WAYNE-- YOU'RE NOT LEAVING WITHOUT ME?
MEET CHESTER COLE, JOURNALIST ON ASSIGNMENT FROM SUCCESS MAGAZINE FOR AN ARTICLE ABOUT BRUCE WAYNE, "A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A BUSINESS TYCOON."
AFTER ALL, THE EVENING IS JUST BEGINNING -- AND THAT MIGHT PROVE TO BE THE MOST INTERESTING PART OF YOUR DAY!
AND ALSO THE MOST PRIVATE! AS FAR AS YOU'RE CONCERNED, CHESTER, MY DAY ENDS NOW!
SOME MOMENTS LATER...
WHY SHOULD THOSE HEDGES BE MOVING... WHEN THERE'S NOT A BREATH OF WIND?

CAREFUL NOW! IT MUST GO OFF AT EXACTLY 6:21!
I'M TIMING IT! FOURTEEN SECONDS TO GO!
--TO GO WHERE?
I'LL MUFFLE HIM!
NOT ME--
--YOU!!
A RADIO-CONTROL--FOR A DETONATOR!?
WHAT--?
ANSWER: AN EXPLOSION INSIDE LA GALERIE!...
NAPOLEON'S STATUE--BREAKING APART!
BOOM
KRAAK
;GASP; SOMETHING INSIDE--COMING OUT!
3

THEN--PANDEMONIUM-- AS A WAVE OF PANIC ENGULFS EVERYONE...
IT'S A BIRD!
IT'S A MONSTER!
...AND SWIFTLY RECEDES TO REVEAL-- THE BATMAN...
WHAT IN--?! THAT'S A PTEROSAUR... AN EXTINCT BIRD!*
*BATMAN IS UP-TO-DATE WITH CURRENT SCIENTIFIC THINKING THAT PTEROSAURS HAD WARM BLOOD AND WERE MORE CLOSELY RELATED TO BIRDS THAN REPTILES! -- JULIE
INCREDIBLE HOW REAL IT LOOKS--BUT IT'S ONLY A MACHINE! I HEAR ITS MOTOR!
CAN'T BRING IT DOWN THIS WAY--!
HAVE TO USE DIRECT CONTACT!
4

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

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B. Abbott

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D. Roberts

"I'm transforming all the fat off my body and changing it into rock-hard muscle. It's amazing. I have lost 6" off my waist. I can actually see my muscles growing from day to day."
P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do."
B. Daniels

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M. Robinson

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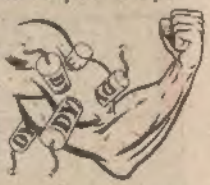

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MAKING ITS GETAWAY--
--AND TAKING ME WITH IT!
TRYING TO SHAKE ME LOOSE!
I'LL EITHER BREAK THIS FLYING BRONCO--
--OR MY NECK--
--OR BOTH!
CLIMBING-- STRAIGHT UP!
DIVING-- STRAIGHT DOWN!
BA ROOM
FINALLY--A FOOTNOTE TO HISTORY-- DULY RECORDED!

LATER, AT POLICE H.Q. WITH COMMISSIONER GORDON...
THE BOYS AT THE LAB ARE GOING OVER THE OTHER WRECKAGE OF THAT...ORNITHOPTER,* I GUESS YOU'D CALL IT.
AN ENGINEERING MARVEL... ESPECIALLY THE WEIGHT-POWER RATIO OF THIS TINY MOTOR...
*AN AIRCRAFT DESIGNED TO FLY BY FLAPPING ITS WINGS LIKE A BIRD. --JULIE
THE EARLY EDITION, COMMISSIONER!
THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY--ENGINEERING MARVEL...WEIGHT-POWER RATIO?
HOW CAN YOU KEEP SO DARN COOL IN THE FACE OF THIS HECTIC AFFAIR?
GOTHAM NEWS
IN THE BIG APPLE NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE!
MECHANICAL EXTINCT BIRD CRASHES RECEPTION!
LOOK AT THIS! CROWDING EVERYTHING ELSE OFF THE FRONT PAGE--INCLUDING A $100,000 JEWEL ROBBERY AT THE SAME TIME!
BATMAN--ALL THOSE PHOTOGRAPHERS HANDY! YOU DON'T SUPPOSE--
--A PUBLICITY STUNT? HARDLY! THIS MIXTURE OF VIOLENCE, FANTASY AND MYSTERY WOULD GET MAXIMUM PUBLICITY NO MATTER WHERE IT HAPPENED!
CONFOUND IT, BATMAN--THEN WHAT IS BEHIND IT?
NOT ONLY WHAT, COMMISSIONER--BUT WHO!
AND THE ANSWER IS--THIS!
MECHANICAL BIRD!
YOU THINK THAT BIRD IS BACK--?
YEP! WHICH LEAVES US WITH THE QUESTION--WHY?
6

THE BIRD INDEED! THE BOLD, BRASH, BIGHOUSE BIRD OF BANDITRY-- THE UMBRELLA ROGUE HIMSELF-- HIS NIBS, THE PENGUIN ..
...WHO, AT THE MOMENT, IS REVELING IN THE FRONT PAGE OF THE SAME NEWSPAPER...
HEADLINES, HEADLINES-- HOW I LOVE THEM! EXACTLY WHAT MY RETURN TO THIS BENIGHTED BURG RATES--
GOTHAM NEWS
- NOT THAT ANYONE IS ACTUALLY AWARE YET OF MY AWESOME PENGUINNICUS PRESENCE!
BOSS, SCORPIO THE SCULPTOR IS HERE!
BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE, SCORPIO! FIRST LET'S COGITATE AND CONTEMPLATE THE EXTRAORDINARILY DEMANDING SCHEDULE AHEAD OF US TOMORROW!
SOMEBODY--HAND OUT THE TEAM-ASSIGNMENT SHEETS!
CLOSE ATTENTION NOW! WE HAVE THREE CAPERS .. WITH TWO PARTS TO EACH CAPER-- THE BIRD AND THE CRIME!
HEY... BUT TWO OF THESE CRIMES ARE JUST PUSHOVER HEISTS OF DINKY JOINTS --A DINER AND DRUGSTORE!
WHERE'S THE MONEY? WHAT'S THE POINT?
MONEY? WE ALREADY DID A HUNDRED G'S IN BUSINESS TODAY, AND THERE'LL BE BIGGER BOODLE LATER ON!
AND THE POINT IS MY UNUTTERABLY BRILLIANT M.O.! THESE "DINKY JOINTS" ARE VITAL TO MY STRATEGY NOT BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY ARE-- BUT WHERE THEY ARE!
STUDY THE DIAGRAMS! KNOW YOUR MOVES! AND REMEMBER-- BOTH PARTS OF EACH CAPER MUST HAPPEN SIMULTANEOUSLY--AT THEIR PRECISELY APPOINTED TIMES!
NOW, SCORPIO, YOUR TURN! SOMEBODY- FETCH MY NUMBER NINE UMBRELLA!
7

MAY I SAY, SIR, THAT STATUE OF NAPOLEON YOU BLEW UP DESERVED IT! A TERRIBLE PIECE OF WORK!
NOW, THE ONE I AM MAKING OF NAPOLEON FOR YOUR MAGNIFICENT PROJECT IS INCOMPARABLY SUPERIOR!
IT HAD BETTER BE!
AND FURTHERMORE... AHEM... I COULDN'T HELP NOTICING THAT YOUR STATURE AND NAPOLEON'S ARE SIMILAR--
OF COURSE THAT'S HOW I GOT THE IDEA FOR MY PROJECT!
THE WAYNE FOUNDATION BUILDING, NEXT AFTERNOON ...WHERE IN HIS EXECUTIVE SUITE, BRUCE WAYNE PRESIDES OVER A VAST FINANACIAL EMPIRE.
WAYNE FOUNDATION
..IN HIS OWN FASHION.
IF ONLY YOU'D STAYED A MINUTE LONGER, MR. WAYNE--THAT PREHISTORIC BIRD!... UNBELIEVABLE!
THEN SUDDENLY, THE BATMAN MATERIALIZED! ..UNBELIEVABLE!
TOO BAD YOU HAD TO MISS IT ALL!
GOTHAM NEWS
ALL STILL HERE EVERYTHING IS SOUNDPROOFED CARPETED CURTAINED AND CHESTER COLE IS VERY CONFUSED.
THIS IS THE THRILLING NERVE CENTER OF A FINANCIAL EMPIRE?... THE DYNAMIC EXECUTIVE AT WORK?--
WHAT THE DEVIL AM I GOING TO WRITE ABOUT?
MR WAYNE, YOU ASLEEP--?
CERTAINLY NOT!
THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
STUDYING THE STOCK QUOTATIONS!
TEN SILENT SECONDS THEN--ALL AT ONCE!
GOT SOME BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF!
PRIVATE-- NOT FOR PUBLICATION, GET ME?
8

WHAT TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY AND YOU'RE NOT A WEREWOLF.

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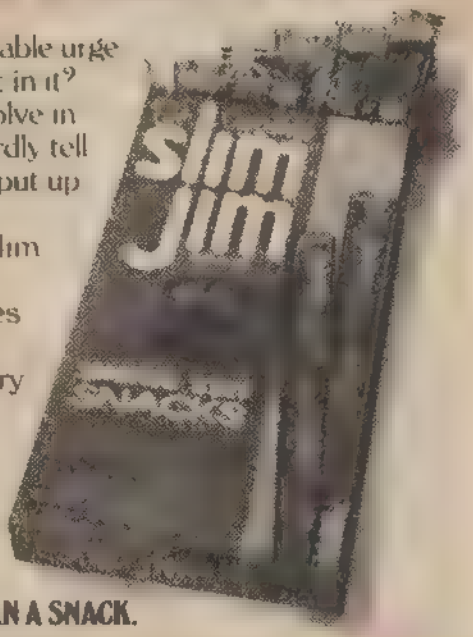
You might want to carry a few extra ones, too. Then, if you meet a werewolf, you can give him something to sink his teeth into instead of you.



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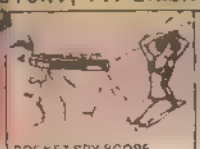

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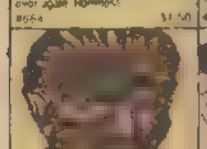

WEREWOLF MASK

A [illegible] [illegible] you to [illegible] [illegible] have to wait for full moon

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MARKED DECK

Magic [illegible] Back and [illegible] reading 5 of [illegible] Back

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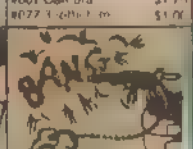

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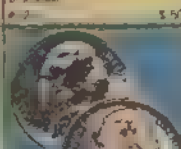

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[illegible] 2 [illegible] Never looks [illegible]

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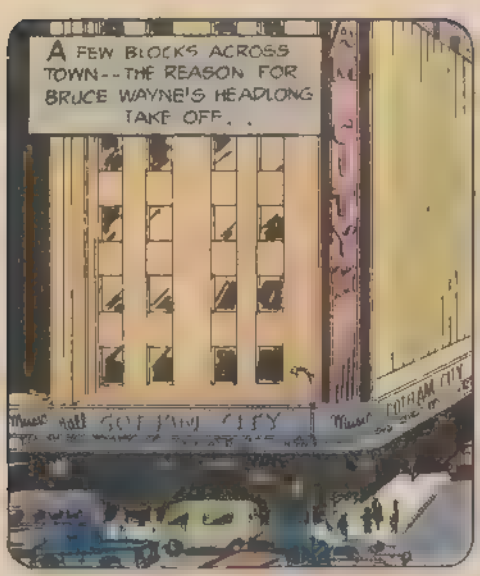
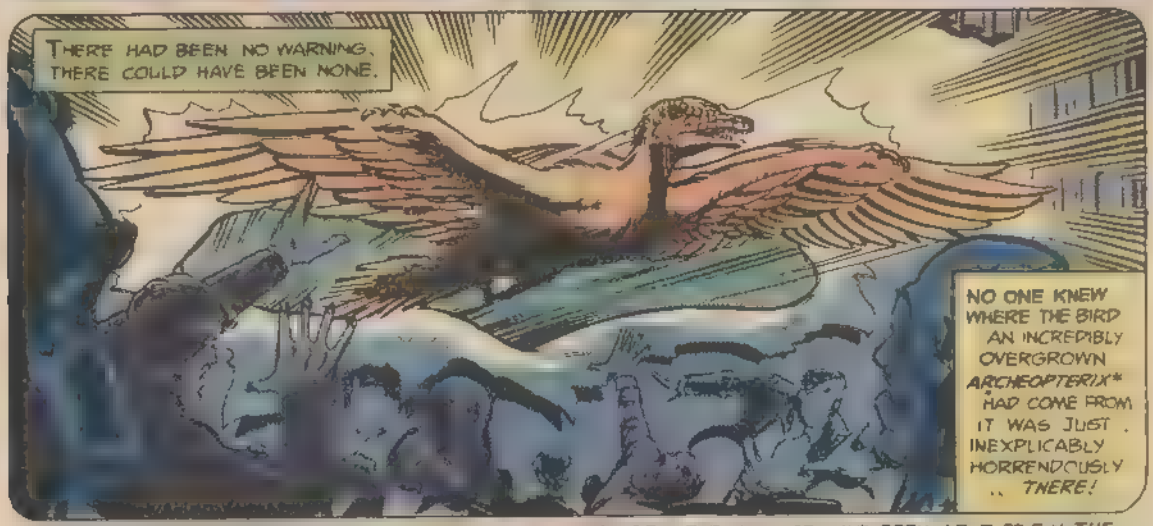
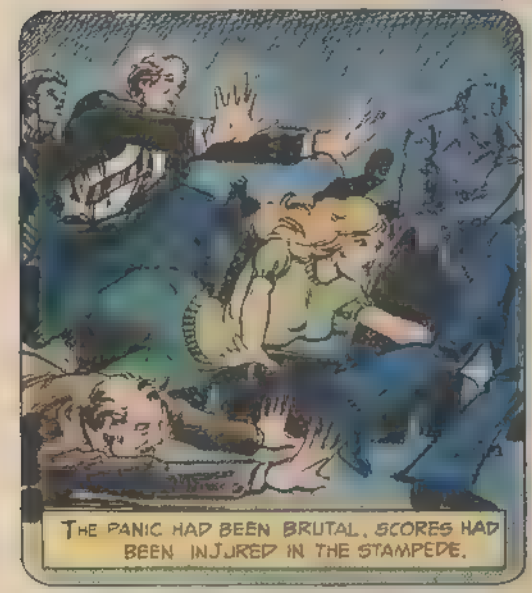


MINUTES EARLIER INSIDE THE PACKED GOTHAM CITY MUSIC HALL--AT THE MATINÉE OF TS FEATURE ATTRACTION THE ADVENTURES OF MACHIAVELLI--


THERE HAD BEEN NO WARNING. THERE COULD HAVE BEEN NONE.
NO ONE KNEW WHERE THE BIRD AN INCREDIBLY OVERGROWN ARCHEOPTERIX* HAD COME FROM IT WAS JUST . INEXPLICABLY HORRENDOUSLY .. THERE!

* THE *ARCHEOPTERIX*-- THE FIRST KNOWN BIRD HAD FEATHERS, BUT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FLY *THE PENGUIN*, HOWEVER, FIXED THAT! *JULIE*



IT WAS, OF COURSE, OVER AND DONE WITH BY THE TIME BRUCE WAYNE GOT THERE. HE HAD BEEN ALERTED BY A MINIATURE EARPLUG RADIO TUNED TO THE POLICE WAVELENGTH...
THE PENGUIN'S WORK PROOF OR NO PROOF, HIS STYLE, BIZARRE...TERRIFYING ...MURDEROUS...
LAN
FOR THE NEXT HOUR HE WANDERS THE STREETS OF GOTHAM...DEEPLY MOVED. ..LOST IN THOUGHT..
BUT WHY? ..WHY?
IN THE DARK CATACOMBS OF THAT DEMENTED CRIMINAL BRAIN, EVERYTHING HAS A FUNCTION...
THEN, WITH ONCOMING TWILIGHT, HE RETURNS TO HIS PENTHOUSE HOME AND ASSUMES THE MANTLE OF THE CAPED CRUSADER. BUT THE SEARCH FOR MEANING GOES ON...TO THE EXCLUSION OF ALL ELSE...
BIRDS ARE ONE OF HIS TRADEMARKS. . BUT WHY EXTINCT BIRDS?
NOR DOES THE MASKED MANHUNTER FIND SURCEASE AS HE BEGINS HIS NOCTURNAL TOUR OF GOTHAM...
THERE MUST'VE BEEN A BACKUP TEAM THAT EXPLODED THE STATUE OF NAPOLEON ...AND RELEASED THE BIRD RIGHT ON TIME--6:21!
WHY WERE THEY SO METICULOUS ABOUT THE TIME?
THE MASTER HAS COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN HIS DINNER DATE.! BUT IF I SAY ONE WORD, HE'LL BITE MY HEAD OFF!
I SUPPOSE I SHALL HAVE TO CALL MISS CANTRELL AND MAKE HIS APOLOGIES!
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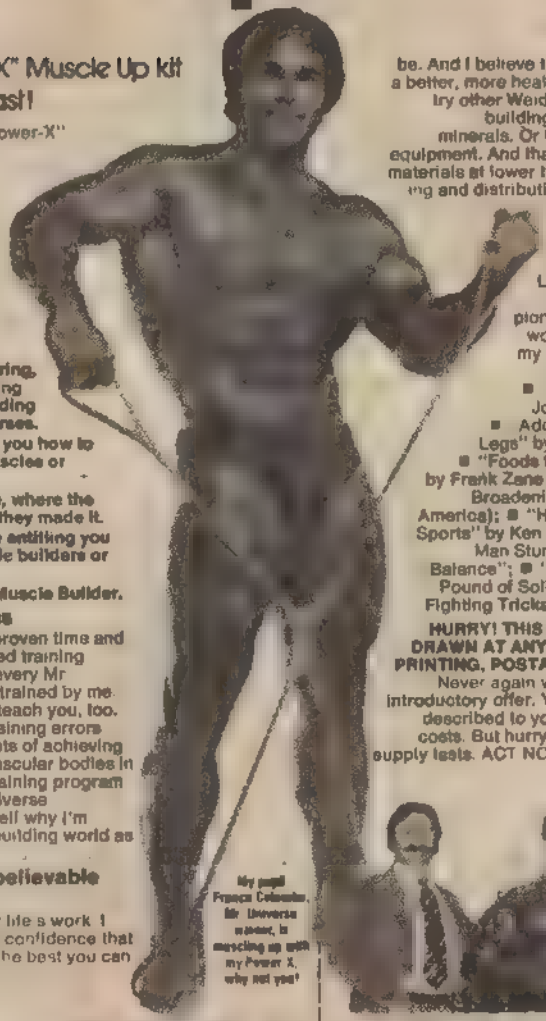

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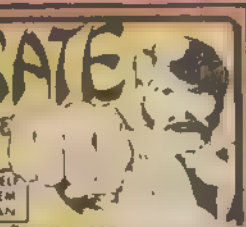

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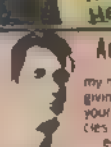

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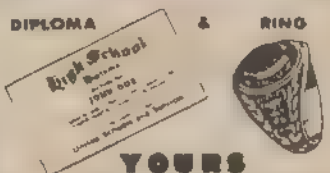

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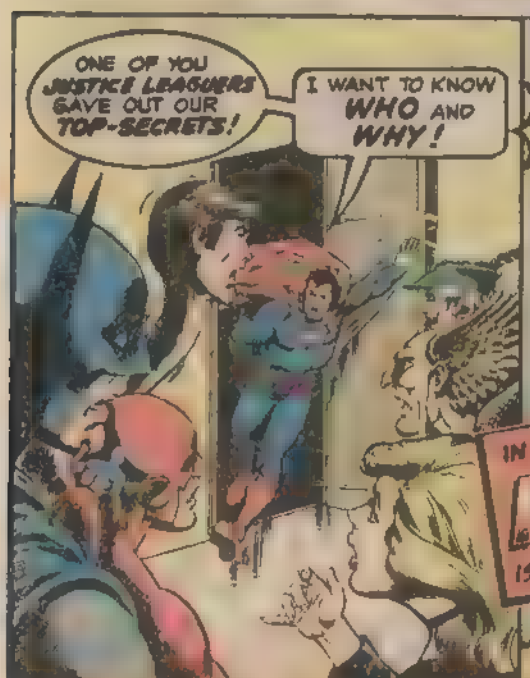

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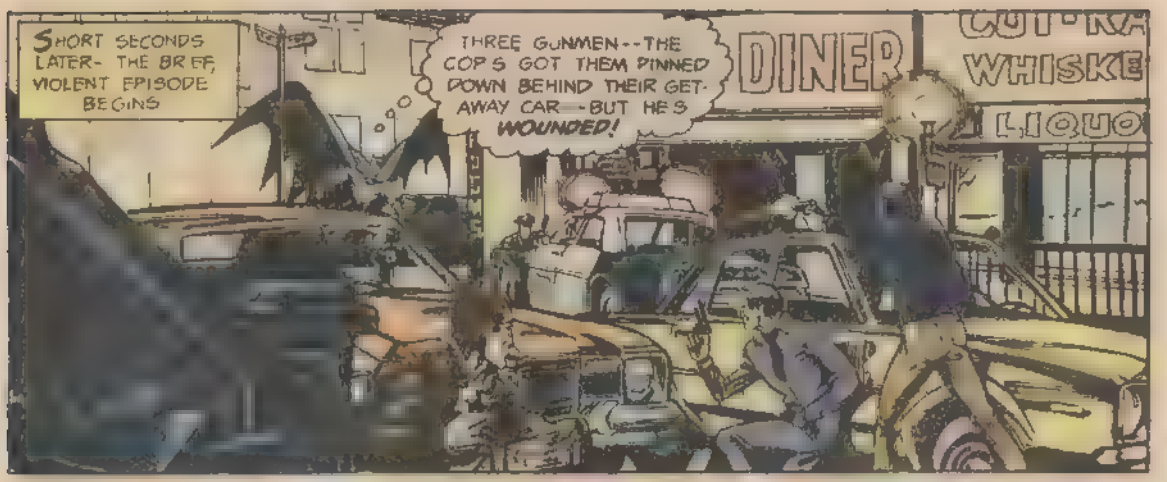
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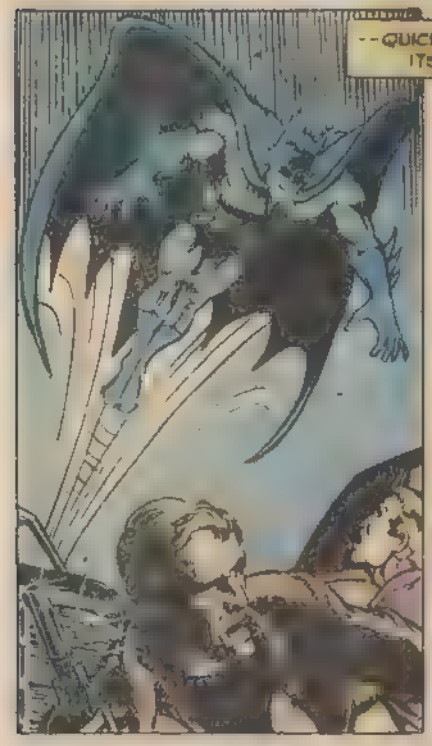

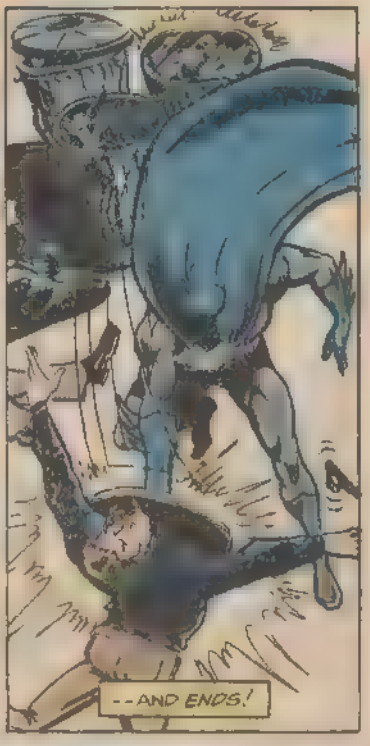

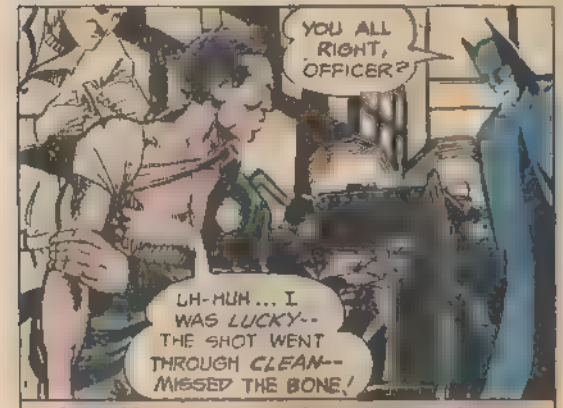

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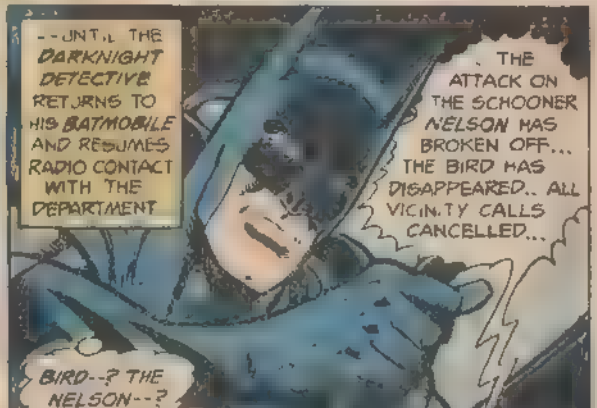
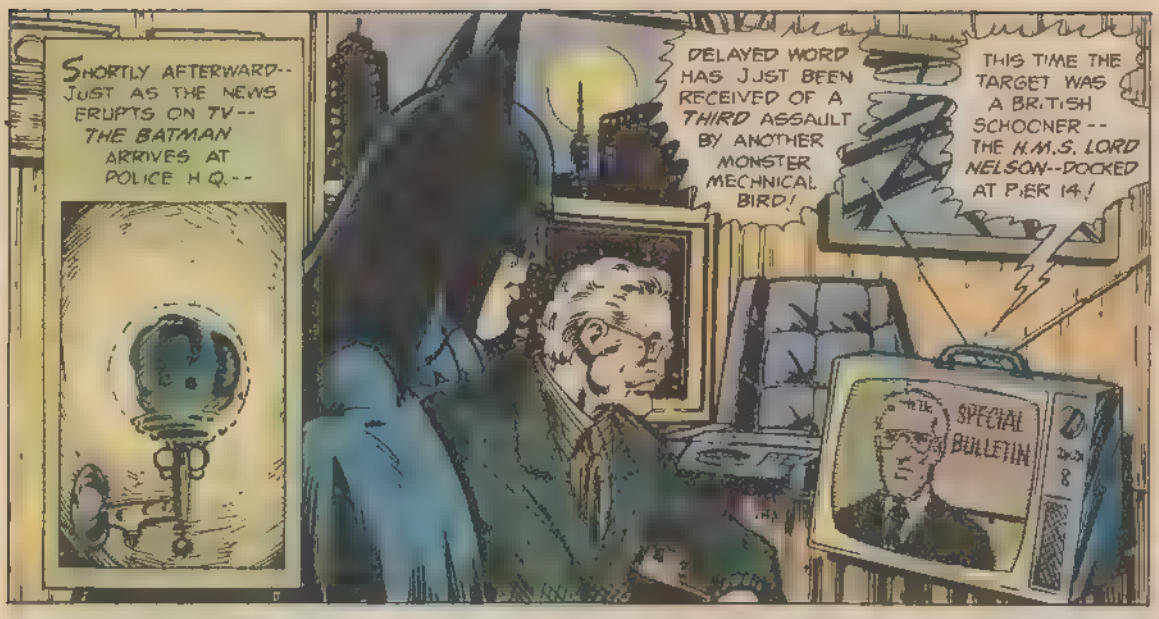
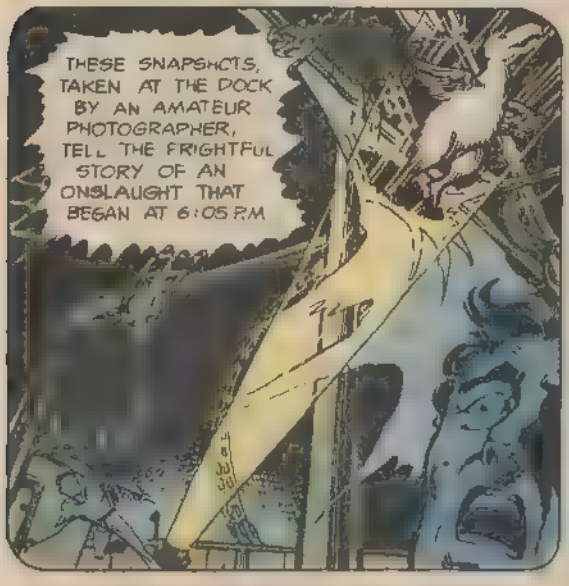
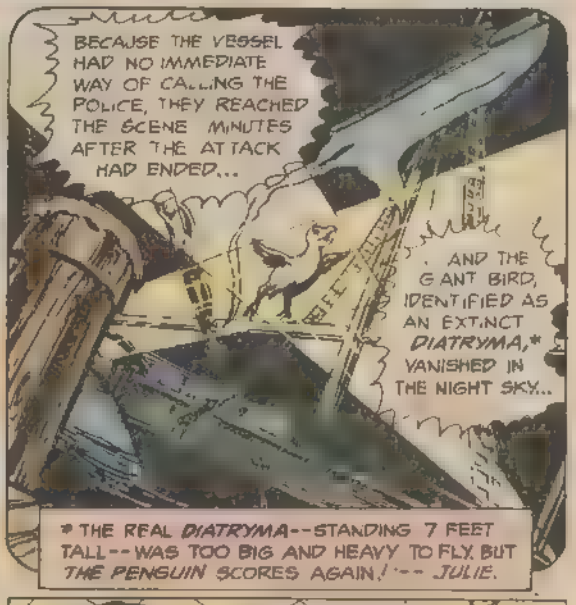
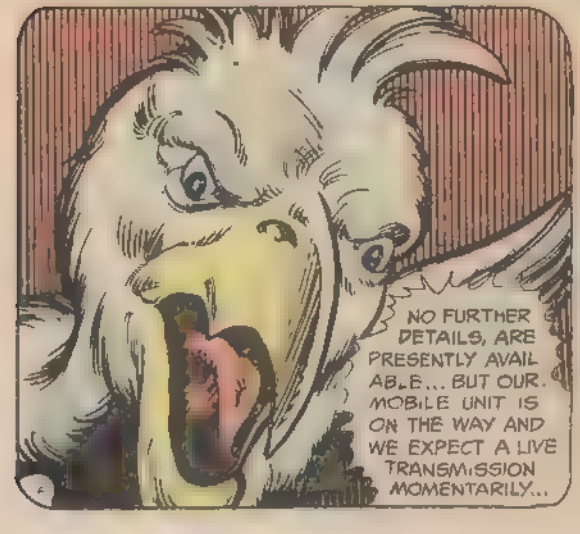

--UNTIL THE DARKNIGHT DETECTIVE RETURNS TO HIS BATMOBILE AND RESUMES RADIO CONTACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT
. THE ATTACK ON THE SCHOONER NELSON HAS BROKEN OFF... THE BIRD HAS DISAPPEARED.. ALL VICINITY CALLS CANCELLED...
BIRD--? THE NELSON--? THIS NEEDS CHECKING OUT!


SHORTLY AFTERWARD-- JUST AS THE NEWS ERUPTS ON TV-- THE BATMAN ARRIVES AT POLICE H.Q.--
DELAYED WORD HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED OF A THIRD ASSAULT BY ANOTHER MONSTER MECHNICAL BIRD!
THIS TIME THE TARGET WAS A BRITISH SCHOONER -- THE H.M.S. LORD NELSON--DOCKED AT PIER 14!
SPECIAL BULLETIN


THESE SNAPSHOTS, TAKEN AT THE DOCK BY AN AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER, TELL THE FRIGHTFUL STORY OF AN ONSLAUGHT THAT BEGAN AT 6:05 P.M.


BECAUSE THE VESSEL HAD NO IMMEDIATE WAY OF CALLING THE POLICE, THEY REACHED THE SCENE MINUTES AFTER THE ATTACK HAD ENDED...
. AND THE GIANT BIRD, IDENTIFIED AS AN EXTINCT DIATRYMA,* VANISHED IN THE NIGHT SKY...
* THE REAL DIATRYMA--STANDING 7 FEET TALL--WAS TOO BIG AND HEAVY TO FLY, BUT THE PENGUIN SCORES AGAIN! --- JULIE.


NO FURTHER DETAILS, ARE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE... BUT OUR MOBILE UNIT IS ON THE WAY AND WE EXPECT A LIVE TRANSMISSION MOMENTARILY...

BLAST IT, BATMAN, AREN'T YOU AT ALL INTERESTED IN THIS--
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
CHECKING THE OPERATIONS RECORD--AND FINDING WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!

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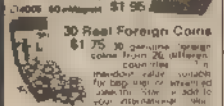

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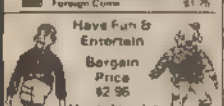
$1.75 30 genuine foreign coins from 20 different countries. Includes rare coins for big value collection. No two alike. Not an assortment. Not all exhibited pieces.

Foreign Coins ... $1.75



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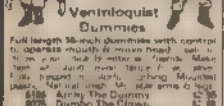
6186 Army The Dummy ... $2.95
6178 Dumbo The Clown ... $2.95



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Solve the mystery of invisible power! What makes it go so fast on 2400 rpm with no apparent energy source. Baffling brain buster that bugs the brightest. Solve mathematical problem while you wait! You will be astonished to realize! Fascinating fun to perform. Scientific classic will. Beautifully made and fun puzzle to take & learn to set different spinners. In cardboard box. Complete with easy to follow scientific explanation.

398 Mystery Top ... $6.95

Automatic Switch Action Comb

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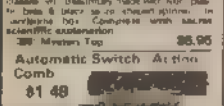
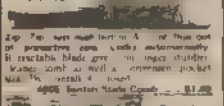


Zap Pop keeps itself fresh & clean so that you get all of your fingers come easily automatically. It reusable. Made great for long lasting plastic. Comb as well as convenient pocket size. No metals & liquid.

4905 Electric Static Comb ... $1.49



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Wow or two! Make change fast. 4 barrels hold genuine rockets. Takes quarters. Easy instructions. Operates.

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Realistic Broken Arm Cast

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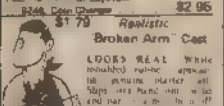

LOOKS REAL. While concealed under sleeve, arm can be moved at will. Slips into hand. Can be used over & over. Instructions included.

Broken Arm Cast ... $1.79

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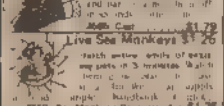

Watch active family of sea monkeys in 5 months. Watch them grow to adults. Watch them multiply hundreds & more. Complete kit.

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More powerful than Jaws, bigger than Godzilla, more terrifying than Frankenstein and the Wolfman, King Kong towers over the Towering Inferno.

And now, for the first time—

the mighty Kong explodes off the giant motion picture screen and into your own home.

Yes! Now you can have the mighty King Kong wage his incredible battle against the United States Air Force in your own living room.

From high atop the great metropolis of civilization, New York City, King Kong comes alive in the new, full-color King Kong Giant Poster book.

When you receive your King Kong Giant Poster book, you'll see how it actually opens up to a full 2 foot by 3 foot monster-sized full-color poster of the most spectacular scene in movie history

And.

The King Kong Giant Poster Book is literally cram-packed with

that you'll ever want to know about the greatest Hollywood horror of all time.

How tall is the King?

How long is his reach?

How large is his monstrous mouth?

You'll learn all the vital statistics about the great Kong. You'll read the story of how King Kong first hit the Hollywood screen. You'll get the inside story about the war between the Hollywood empires, Universal vs Paramount, that decided who would do the modern version of the great classic.

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Address_____

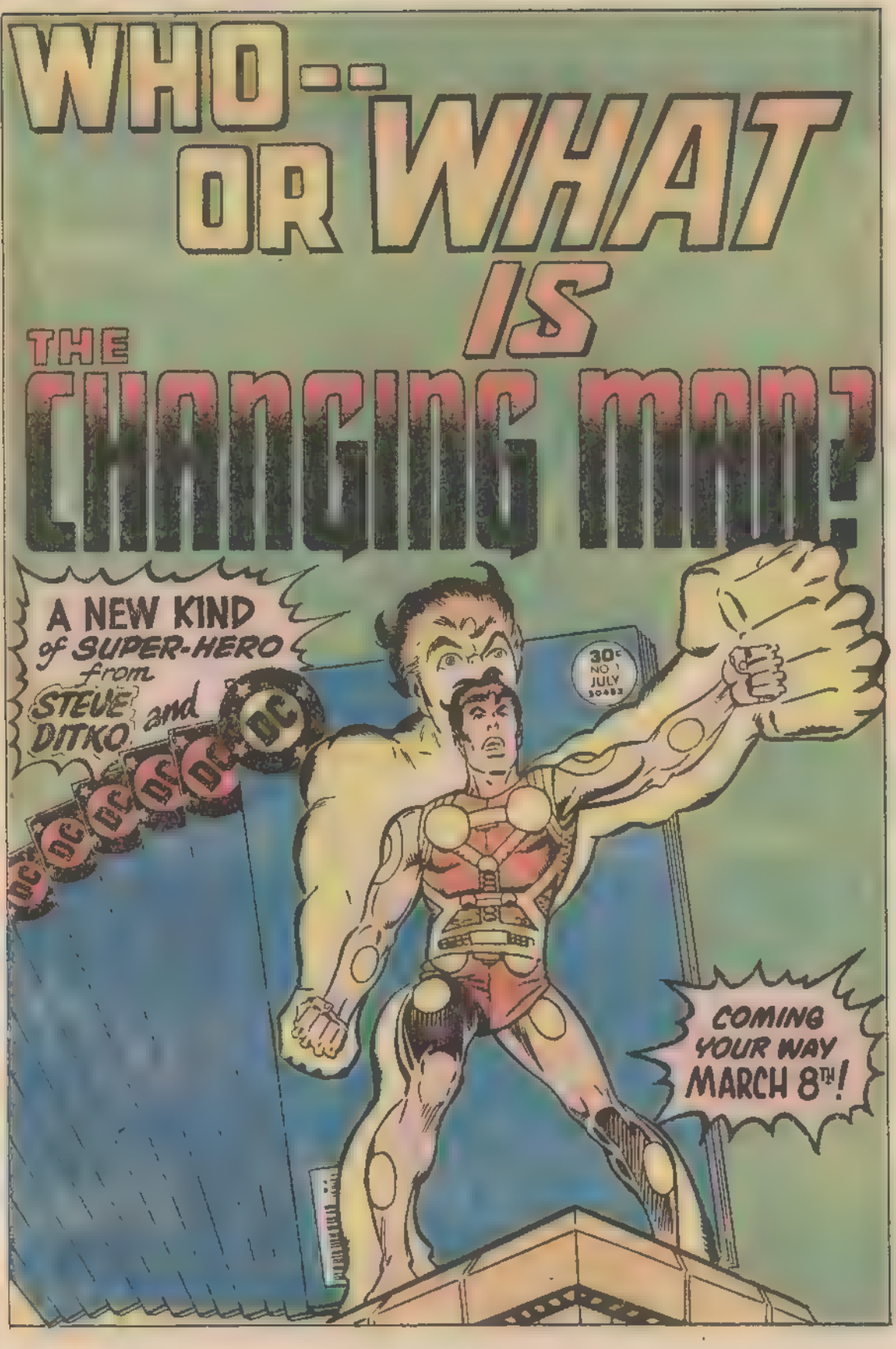
City State Zip

THE DINER STICKUP I JUST CAME FROM BEGAN AT 6:05 P.M.-- EXACTLY WHEN THE LORD NELSON CAME UNDER ATTACK!
THE DINER WAS AT 1805 HAMILTON STREET... AND THE GREAT ROMANCE OF NELSON'S LIFE WAS LADY HAMILTON!
FURTHER, THE NUMBER OF THE ADDRESS--1805--CALCULATED ON THE 24:00 HOUR O'CLOCK--BECOMES 6:05 P.M.!
AND 1805 IS THE YEAR OF NELSON'S DEATH!
THE SECOND ATTACK .. THE MUSIC HALL, SHOWING A FILM ABOUT MACHIAVELLI... AT 3:27 P.M.--EXACTLY THE TIME OF A DRUGSTORE HEIST AT 1527 FLORENTINE DRIVE!
MACHIAVELLI, WHO WAS A FLORENTINE-- DIED IN 1527-- WHICH TRANSPOSES TO 3:27 P.M.!
I'D WONDERED IF THESE MANIACAL BIRD CAPERS WERE INTENDED TO COVER UP SOMETHING...
...BUT THEY'VE BEEN DESIGNED-- IN THE MOST INTRICATE, CONVOLUTED WAY--TO DO THE OPPOSITE--
TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON THESE SIMULTANEOUSLY-COMMITTED CRIMES!
AND YESTERDAY'S ATTACK...ON A STATUE OF NAPOLEON... OCCURRED AT 6:21 P.M. --THE SAME TIME AS THAT JEWEL ROBBERY AT 1821 WATERLOO ROAD--
--AND 1821-- THE YEAR OF NAPOLEON'S DEATH-- BECOMES 6:21 P.M.!
BUT WHY? WHAT'S GOING ON?
I CAN'T EVEN GUESS, BUT ALL THREE NAMES INVOLVED--NAPOLEON, MACHIAVELLI AND NELSON--MUST HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON WITH THE PENGUIN--
--WHICH I'M OFF TO RESEARCH RIGHT NOW!

SOON, THE GOTHAM CENTRAL LIBRARY HAS AN OFF-HOURS VIS TOR--
THIS IS IT--"BIG SMALL MEN OF HISTORY"!
THE NAMES ON THE CONTENTS PAGE --NAPOLEON, MACHIAVELLI AND NELSON-- ARE LISTED IN THE SAME ORDER AS THE BIRD-ATTACKS!
NOW, CHECKING THOSE WHO'VE RECENTLY USED THAT BOOK AH A MR. WHITEHEAD!
WHITEHEAD--FROM THE WELSH ROOTS OF THE WORD PENGUIN--PEN MEANING HEAD AND GUIN MEANING WHITE!
CLEAR EVIDENCE--AND HIS SCHEDULE OF CRIMES TO COME!
NEXT STOP--HOME AGAIN
WHAT BRINGS YOU HOME THIS TIME OF NIGHT, SIR?
TO PLAY A GAME, ALFRED-- OF WORD-ASSOCIATION! TELL ME: WHAT DO YOU ASSOCIATE WITH THE NAME KING ALARIC OF THE VISIGOTHS?
HE DIED IN 410 A.D., AFTER CONQUERING ROME,--
--ROME! QUICK--A WORD ASSOCIATED WITH ROME!
COLISEUM!
COLISEUM--EXCELLENT! LET'S SEE--HERE IT IS...
410 COLISEUM ROAD--THE ADDRESS OF THE FARMERS' MARKET!
IT ALL ADDS UP!
IT DOES, SIR? VERY GOOD, SIR!
AND NOW SIR--?
NOW TO WAIT FOR A VERY REWARDING ENCOUNTER--
--THAT IS, IF THE PENGUIN KEEPS UP THIS TEMPO AND IF TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT--BEGINNING AT 4:10 A.M.!
THE TIME: 4:09 A.M.!--THE HEIGHT OF THE WORKING DAY AT THE BUSTLING FARMERS' MARKET--
PAYMASTER
APPLES

EXACTLY ONE MINUTE LATER--
PRESENT VOUCHERS HERE
HERE'S MY VOUCHER! IT'S FOR ALL THE MONEY!
HAND IT OVER!
--AND ONE SECOND AFTER THAT--
WHERE'S THE PENGUIN?
LOOK NO FARTHER, BATMAN-EX!
EGAD, WHAT A LOATHESOME SURPRISE TO FIND YOU HERE! I HAD NO IDEA YOUR EXECRABLE LEVEL OF SCHOLARSHIP COULD COPE SO QUICKLY WITH MY FORMIDABLE METHODOLOGY!
COPING WITH YOU IS AN OLD SPECIALTY OF MINE!

COPE WITH THIS!
BAILING HOOKS-
--TO RIP THE UMBRELLA APART!
HE'S IN THAT TRUCK--AND IT'S GOT TO DRIVE AROUND THOSE BOXES TO GET BACK TO THE GATE!
PAY
BUT I DON'T HAVE TO--!
KARASSH
16
ONCE DEE ON TO PAGE FOLLOWING


WHO--
OR WHAT
IS
THE
CHANGING MAN?
A NEW KIND
of SUPER-HERO
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30¢
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COMING
YOUR WAY
MARCH 8TH!

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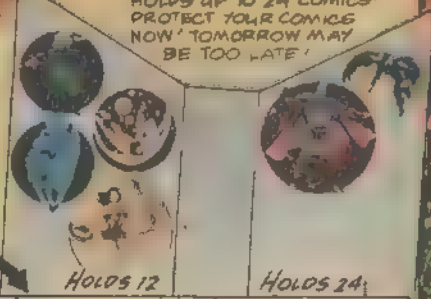
HERE'S OUR PEERLESS PRICE GUIDE TO ORDER LOTS OF SAVERS



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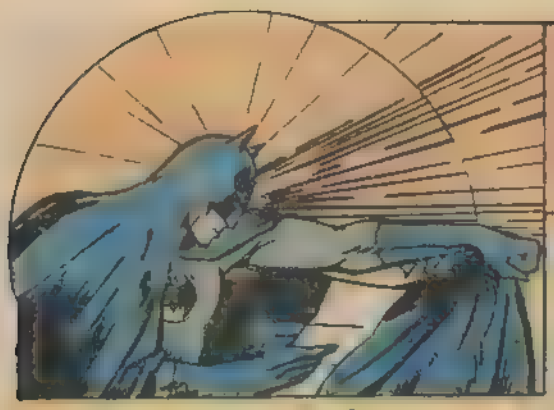
STAND BACK, BATMAN-EX! THIS APPLE HAPPENS TO BE A PINE APPLE!
I COULD SPREAD YOU OVER THE COUNTRYSIDE... BUT I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU--NOT NOW AND NOT HERE--
--SO--
--I SURRENDER!
OR DO I? YOU SAW HOW EASILY I MADE FLIGHTLESS BIRDS TAKE TO THE AIR--
POOF POOF
- I CAN JUST AS EASILY MAKE A PENGUIN FLY!
TILL WE MEET AGAIN, BATMAN-EX!
LATER...THE PENGUIN AND HIS FELONIOUS FLOCK...
WHAT NOW, PENGY? THE BATMAN CRACKED YOUR M.O.! HE KNOWS!
AH, YES--BUT I KNOW HE KNOWS--AND THAT WILL MAKE WHAT LIES AHEAD ALL THE MORE FASCINATING FOR BATMAN-EX--
--EX AS IN EXTINCT! WAKK! WAKK! WAKK!
WHILE AT POLICE HQ..
YOUR TIMETABLE CHECKS OUT, BATMAN! A FOURTH EXTINCT BIRD STRUCK THE ASIA MUSEUM AT 4:10 AND DESTROYED THE ALARIC CHALICE!
SO YOU KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT!
DO I, COMMISSIONER? NOW THAT THE PENGUIN KNOWS THAT I KNOW?
AND IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT "FOWL" FATE AWAITS THE BATMAN BE SURE TO READ NEXT ISSUE'S
"LITTLE MEN'S HALL OF FAME!"
ON SALE THE 2ND WEEK OF MARCH!



LETTERS to the BATMAN

c/o DC COMICS, INC
75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

S-2570

Dear Editor:

I sat down to write this letter on "Omega Bomb Target —Gotham City" (**BATMAN #283**) with the intention of tearing the story to ribbons. However, I decided to re-read the entire three-parter first and somehow that review completely changed my mind. When read as a whole, the story is very good and ranks up there with some spy novels and movies I've seen.

What struck me as a great improvement was the fact that it took **Batman** a long time to get a jump ahead on the Omega Gang. I'm sick and tired of heroes who are nearly omnipotent when it comes to anticipating the villain's thoughts.

The way David V. Reed worked those characters on the cover into the story was really great. The spirals were confusing just to look at, so I can imagine how Dr. Nagy ended up in the state he was in.

By the way, Omega must have been a fairly large organization, yet you hardly paid any attention to their leader. I'm interested in the methods used to assemble such a group and perhaps Dave will find a way to tell us about this mastermind in the future. **MIKE WHITE**

207 West Fest

Mackinaw, IL 61755

(Dave will tell us almost anything if we give him the opportunity—so it won't surprise us in the least to find the head of Omega out rounding up another gang in a future story!—BR)

• • • • •

Dear Mr. Rozakis,

To begin with, **BATMAN #283** had everything! Ernie Chua's artwork was better than usual and his layouts exciting to view. A splendid farewell on his part.

And the story—how fine! The plot of the Omegans was brilliantly conceived while Reed's action-sequences and situations were remarkable. We got to see **The Batman** battling in zero-grav and hours later in a disorientation chamber—and he conquers both! Terrific! With all this, the conclusion wrapped up everything nicely in a little bundle.

Finally, with regard to who David V. Reed is, I have to admit I know. He is the finest **Batman** writer in years!

CHRISTOPHER JURICICH

2116 Hillside Dr.

Burlingame, CA 94010

(To those not in the know, Ernie Chua has left DC for other work and with this issue, our new "regular" Batman artist makes his bow: MIKE GRELL!—BR)

Dear Editor:

• • • • •

David Reed finished off a most notable miniseries with a notable final episode in **#283**. This tale had a cinematic air to it which added much to its mystery and together with a strong script and fine art, it made the ending a powerful one.

The reader was swept away from the murder attempt on **Batman** back to Gotham in a terse, skillful way. It's interesting to sit back and watch how time flies for both **Batman** and the reader as the plot strides forward. "Beautiful," exclaims the mayor of Gotham City, and I agree, even though he was talking about something else! This three-parter was consistently well-written and interesting enough to keep anyone reading!

But what's this? I see precious few coming attractions with Reed's name as writer! Don't leave us, Reed! **Batman** needs you!

ELIZABETH M. SMITH

13224 S "C"

Tacoma WA 98444

(Dave's far from gone, Liz! He just took a breather last issue to polish up this issue's Penguin tale—and now that he's caught his breath for this year, we aim to keep him writing regularly for another dozen issues!—BR)

Dear Editor:

• • • • •

I would like to point out a flaw in **BATMAN #283.** I don't care how capable Dr. Nagy is. It would be impossible for him to build an atomic bomb out of uranium as it comes out of the ground. Natural uranium does not have enough of the fissile isotope, U-235, to make an explosive device. The bomb can be made in two ways. Either you concentrate the U-235 in huge separation plants or you make plutonium with it in large reactors. Both methods require tremendous technology.

RALPH E. PAINTER, JR.

1454 Sparkleberry Lane

Aiken, SC 29801

(You hear that, Dave? Your bomb was a dud! . . . What do you mean you're going to drop it on South Carolina just to make sure?!?—Bob Rozakis)

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

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2. Mail Subscriptions	3,000	3,000
C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	178,900	125,415
D. Free Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies	1,000	600
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	179,900	126,015
F. Copies not distributed: 1. Office Use, Left Over, Unaccounted, Spoiled After Printing	4,000	2,028
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G. Total (Sum of E, F—1 and 2—should equal net press run shown in A)	423,000	356,043

11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
Arthur Gutowitz, Business Manager
12. For Completion by Publishers Mailing at the Regular Rates: In accordance with the provisions of this statute, I hereby request permission to mail the publication named in item 1 at the phased postage rates presently authorized by 39 U.S.C. 3626. (Signed) Arthur Gutowitz, Business Manager

...Another Masterful Missive from our Publisher!!

Remember last month's quiz? Well, we're going to have another. But I promise—brief, very brief. If you get the first question right, you'll get all the others right too!

1. As soon as DC's **Dollar Comics** hit the stand, you rushed out and bought at least one. **Yes No**
2. You bought at least one of DC's **Dollar Comics** as soon as they hit the stands. **Yes No**
3. You rushed out as soon as DC's **Dollar Comics** hit the stand and bought at least one. **Yes No**
4. I answered **'Yes'** to all of the questions above. **Yes No**

Did you say **yes** to 1, 2, 3, and 4? You did? **A+.** Pass GO and collect $200.00.

What? You didn't say **'Yes'** to **any** of the above? If you have been confined to your bed for the past six months with Yellow Fever, Shingles or the Bubonic Plague, then you may be excused. If not . . . get out there and buy some **Dollar Comics,** you misinformed miscreants. There have been six out there already, **six, six, six!** 80 pages in each comic, 64 pages of **all new stories,** 64 pages of **all new art.**

At this very moment, even as you read, you are missing the extraordinary sum total of 384—count 'em—**three hundred eighty-four** pages of the best comics around. That's **23** comic books worth of material. And you could be getting it all for the price of only **20** regular comics. You could be saving ninety cents!

Well, enough about you. Let's talk about me.

What am I doing with **my** ninety cents?

O.K. O.K. Do you know its been a full year since I've been at DC? Hard to believe. Especially since it isn't true. I happen to be writing this letter on November 15, 1976. It's supposed to appear in February, 1977. Most of them are dated May. In addition, the deadline for my finishing this happens to have been three weeks ago. In October.

This is one of the amazing things I've learned in the full 8½ months I've been at DC. **Jack Adler,** our Prince of Production, is breathing hotly down my neck with good reason. Below you behold The Life Cycle of DC Comics dated May:

1. The script is assigned in September.
2. The artwork is back at DC in October.
3. The Production Department has it all properly colored and prepared for printing by November. **November?** You can see why Jack's camped outside my office with a string stretched at trip level across the door. This letter is supposed to be **at the printer** even as I, pen in hand, scuttle to explain.
4. And, yes you guessed it. All May-dated comics are supposed to be printed in December.
5. And shipped in January.
6. And put in comic racks everywhere in February, sneakily dated May so the newsdealer might actually leave our comics on the stand that long-rather than sending them back to us February 3rd.
7. In August, 1977, about 11 months after we've set the 'May' books in motion, vaguely reliable sales figures are finally spewed out by a computer.

Can that possibly be true? A **year** after we start a book we find out whether we have on our hands another **Superman** or a second **Brother Power-The Geek?** That's ridiculous.

Comics. What a business. What I've learned in the eight and one-half months I've been here is that I have to wait three more months to find out how things are really going.

If I had any sense I'd take my 90¢ and run. But they say that everyone in comics is crazy. Which means I've found a permanent home. But, listen, I've got it all figured out. If I play my cards right, by the end of the year I'll have saved three dollars and sixty cents from **Dollar Comics.** And then years from now, accrued at the annual interest rate of 6½ percent.

See you around the bank—

Jenette

DC Profiles #2

Walt Simonson

DC Comics, like all comic book publishers, employs the services of dozens of free-lancers to plot, pencil, ink, letter and color over seven hundred pages of original comic book material each month. DC also employs *Walt Simonson*, who can do all of that stuff!

In the four years Walt's been free-lancing at DC, he has lent his unique styles (note the plural) to some of this company's most spectacular projects: the far-famed *Manhunter* series run in *Detective Comics* a while back, the critically acclaimed *Hercules Unbound* series presently in publication, the *Dr. Fate* special released last year.... Walt's uniqueness is exceeded only by his versatility.

"I try to tailor my work to the needs of the story-*Manhunter* was completely different from my work on *Metal Men* or *Dr. Fate*-and I find significance in how I solve the 'problem' of each different assignment. I truly enjoy the variety-that's really why I do comics," Simonson informed this writer.

Walt's personal favorite was a samurai story he did for one of the short-lived *Atlas* black-and-white magazines published in 1975. "Of all my work, that, to me, has stood the test of time. I think *Manhunter* was very good for the time it was done, at that point in my learning process."

Learning and growing as an artist is very important to Walt Simonson. "Pretentious as it may sound, I want to keep learning as I continue working on my drawing and on the interplay between words and pictures," continued the thirty year-old artist.

That last point—the interplay between the art itself and the overall storytelling—is tremendously important. Being proficient as a penciller, an inker, a letterer, a colorist and a plotter means being proficient as a storyteller in the graphic arts medium. It allows Simonson to approach comic books as an entity, no matter what role he plays on a particular story.

And as anyone who has read a comic book done by this man can readily say, Walt Simonson is one heck of a storyteller.

Mike Gold

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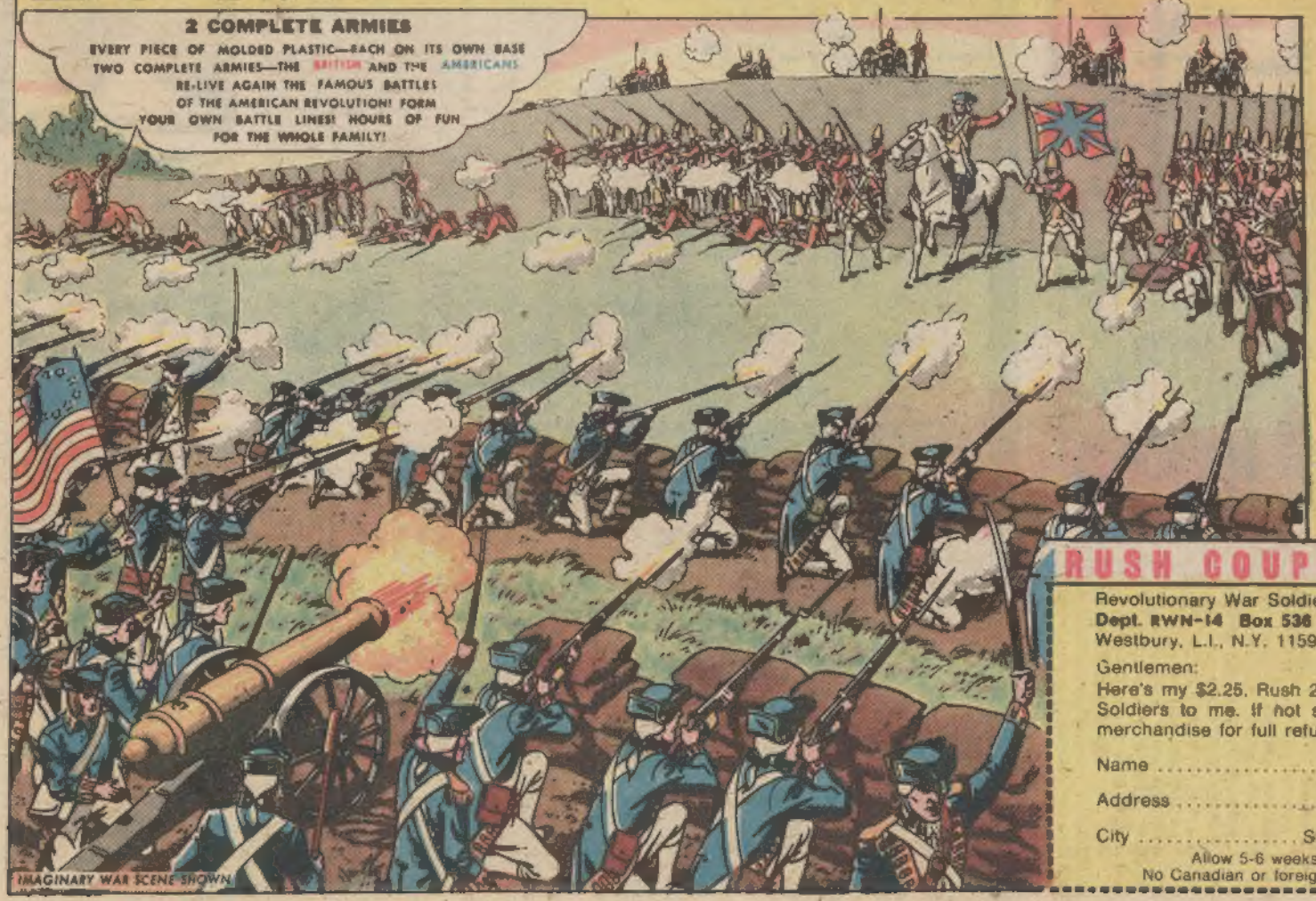

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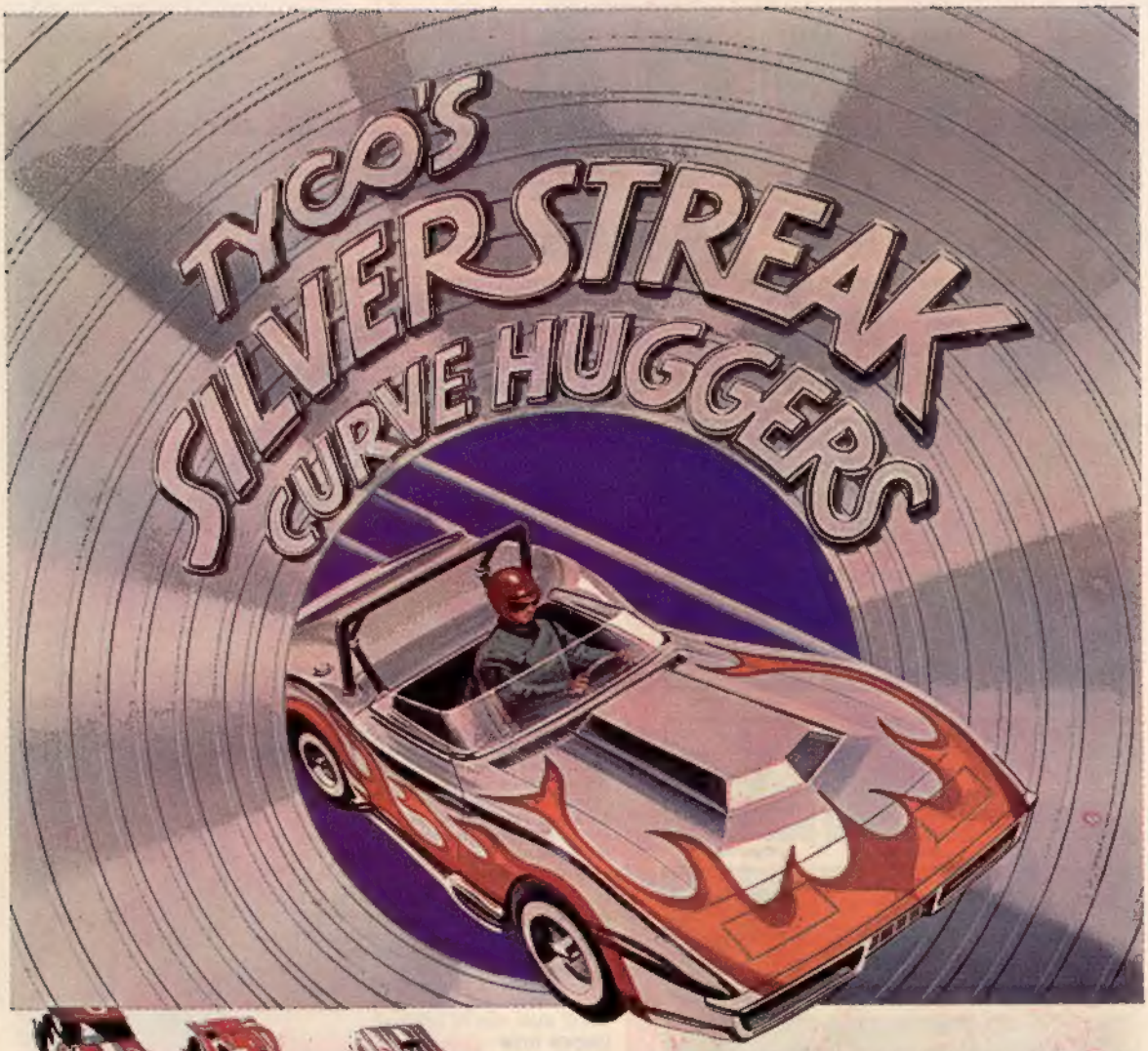

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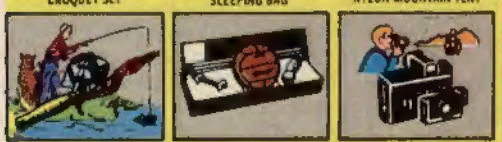

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